

THE PRESS.
TUESDAY MORNING, JAN. 2, 1872.
Condition of the Banks in the State.
SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BANK EX-
AMINER.

The following table shows the aggregate of the liability and assets of the banks of discount and deposit:

Capital stock.....	\$445,000 00
Circulation.....	8,011 00
Deposits.....	328,516 80
Due on dividends.....	7,248 00

Loans.	\$588,843 25
Bonds and stocks.	81,475 00
Real estate.	16,000 00
Due from banks.	107,300 00
Cash.	61,646 35
	\$855,360 71

With the present government tax on the circulation of State banks, all the indcement there is for these banks to continue business

When the last annual report was made there was a deficiency in the outstanding claims against the American Bank of Lowell of \$31,290, and to meet this claim the Supreme Judicial Court assessed the stockholders of the bank \$42 on each share held at the time of the injunction, and ordered a bill in equity to be brought by the Receivers to recover the amount. The bill is now pending in the courts. There is now a balance in the hands of the Receivers of \$17,

main unpaid; on 130 of which it is unavailable from bankrupts, &c., and a large number of the remaining shares are held out of the State and the assessment uncollectable. The sum now on hand will pay about 57 cents on the dollar of the original claim, exclusive of interest.

The other State banks have so nearly wound up their affairs that the public have no interest in them.

The Examiner deems the present system of national banks as vastly superior to State in-

the payments and the necessary adoption of some system of redemption of bank notes, would revive the old trouble incident therewith which all bankers under the old system are but too familiar, and put into the hands of the "money changers" the power to create panics and clog the wheels of business, a state of things which cannot be accomplished under the present system.

The banks of discount in the State are Eastern, Mercantile, and Veazie banks of Bangor, and Lime Rock and North banks of

Since the last annual report, ten new savings banks, chartered in 1868-70-71, have been organized and commenced business:

- Camden Savings Bank, Camden.
- Harland Savings Bank, Harland.
- Fairfield Savings Bank, Kendall's Mills.
- Kennebunk Savings Bank, Kennebunk.
- Pembroke Savings Bank, Pembroke.
- Phillips Savings Bank, Phillips.
- Diamond Savings Bank, Richmond.

The Lumberman's Savings Bank at Oldtown has closed business. At this date 49 savings banks are doing business in the State, and 100,000,000 dollars are deposited.

Accordingly there is a gain in deposits	\$ 6,189,913
The increase of depositors,	15,256
The average to each depositor is,	\$28 30
An increase in one year of	21 81
The number of depositors who have	57,561
balance less than \$500 is	8,243,996
The amount of the same is	146 63
An average to each depositor of	
The number of depositors who have	
balances of \$500 and over, and less	6,338
than \$1000 is	
The number with balances exceeding	

Averaging to each depositor, \$1,229.00
Dividends averaging a fraction less
than 7 per cent, that have been paid
during the year amounting to \$1,152,195.85

While the income from governments and bonds of first class cities and towns gave from seven to nine per cent., banks had no difficulty in making large dividends safely. But such is not the case. The earnings of some few banks are now insufficient, after paying the *established* dividends, to carry the legal amount to reserve. "The result of such a

—a class of securities in which the money of legitimate savings bank depositors should never be invested. There is a very general feeling, and an expressed desire on the part of the managers of these institutions, that the rate of dividends should be reduced, but owing to local pride, competition, and a want of concert of action, it has not been accomplished. As a remedy for this state of things, and

The Examiner says that equity and the best interests of the banks demand that the State tax be imposed upon savings banks. The tax of one-half of one per cent. per

does not fall where it was intended, and there is no good reason why it should be longer continued. The reserve fund should be guarded with great care, and the semi-annual examination by the Trustees should be thorough and searching. The practice of some institutions, where connected with national State banks, of having the Trustees and Directors the same, is considered by the Examiner of doubtful policy.

"Coasting."

Mr. Bonner—How long is it since you have a sled? Did you ever have one? Perhaps you were brought up where there was no snow. If so, I pity you. No one can be a perfect man, rounded out into a perfection on every side, who has not had chilblains, been rubbed, snow-balled, and who has not been upset on an icy hill and rolled over, sled and boy, in a promiscuous heap. You may pursue all your armor and make believe that you

down hill, you shall not be elected honorar member of the Hyperborean Boys' Sled Club. Blessed be New Bedford! What now? you will ask. Moved with a sympathy for the welfare of the boys, once upon a time the aldermen set apart a hill street in that beautiful city and, ever since, blessed city, for the special use of sleds. They devoted it to all boys and girls under seventy years of age. One street

keep out of the way of the angry old gentlemen, who have been tripped up, or sent flying over the boys' heads. Nay, night after night, snow whirled carted upon the bare spots, or water sprinkled when it would form ice.

Was not this an enlightened view of an administrator's duty? Ought not every boy to vote, when he grows up, for such wise counsellors? May the winner fall lightly of their heads, and the summer sing sweetly over their graves, while nodding flowers beset

we have just sent to us from
vania a new sled, and as sure
name was, in large letters, **Dexter**. But find
in every other respect, it has one original fea-
ture worthy of note. An iron rudder is in-
geniously fastened between the runners in the
front, with hand-ropes attached in such a way
that the boy can steer with it or use it as a
brake. In this way one may mount his feet
upon the sled and sit as free as a king, guid-
ing his sled as easily as all kings are known to
guide their kingdoms.

sied to give more pressure than knobby
rattletraps that country boys knock up for
themselves. This was the most primitive
form of our recollection: two staves of a
rel, fastened together with a cleat at each end
the board at one end being wide enough to
furnish a point of contact for the owner.
These required some skill in management,
yet, as they could be made in ten minutes,
whole school, upon a sudden snow, could be
started down hill in an hour or two, with
such laughing, screaming and hallooing as

are the boards floored over strongly. Coarsely ungainly and heavy, as they were, some gres sliding has been done on them. It is not the hand-some-horse or sled, or editor, that goes along best—is it. Then came to our admiring eyes the framed sleds, with open side fine runners well shod with steel, and length iron-framed underpinning all through. To all this is, in modern days, added a bit of paint, and names lofty as the stars. We admit that great improvements are made and that the improvements are made better and better.

Of all positions, the worst, the most inexcusable, is what used to be called a *bell plumper*, or when one lies down upon his side, with his head to the front, steering with his toes. The position is ungainly, the head

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